by the coal companies from out of Cess|royalty payable by coal companies to State Government by mutual agreement.

Lack of infrastructure in coal companies

2315. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the major coal companies in the public sector lack in infrastructure to transport coal to consumption centres resulting in mounting pithead stocks; and

(b) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to plan a proper production distribution method?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) Coal companies do not transport coal beyond despatch points. Coal is finally transported to the consumption centre by rail, merry go round, belt, rope or road etc. Except for railways, these systems could be captive or privately owned.

It is a fact that due to the mismatch between the production and the transport capacities in some of the coal production areas Coal stocks have been mounting up. In order to improve despatches and liquidate these stocks, coal companies are improving their coordination efforts with railways. To improve the off-take by road, two schemes have been formulated for selling coal under the Liberalised Sale Scheme (LSS). LSS-I for small buyers requiring coal from one truck to 1000 tonnes while LSS-II is for major buyers requiring 10,000 tonnes and above. Coal India Limited have also recently launched a scheme for developing wholesale trade in coal. Under this scheme, the subsidy companies of Coal India Limited will appoint wholesale traders on the basis of applications invited through open advertisements. It is stipulated that each dealer shall lift atleast 3000 tonnes of coal per month by road.

Production and import of coal

2316. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Ministe of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total production, demand, sale of coal in terms of quantity and value for the past five years, year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that in spite of significant increase in coal production, import of coal has been on the increase;

(c) if so, what are the details of quantity of coal imported during the last three years, year-wise and expenditure incurred thereon including permission granted for import of coal during the current year and likely expenses thereon;

(d) what steps are being taken/ proposed to achieve self sufficiency in coal and reduce coal imports during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(e) whether Government have assigned import of coal to agencies having no expertise in the line ignoring the claim of MMTC and Coal India Limited; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) The figures of coal production, production value, despatches and sale value of Coal India Limited and Singareni Collieries Company Limited during the last five years are given in the attached Statement. (*See* below)

(b) and (c) Integrated steel plants are the main importers of low ash coking coal for the purpose of blending with indigenous coal for meeting the gap between the indigenous availability and the demand and also to improve the quality of overall blend to be used in steel plants. Quantity of coking coal imported by steel plants during the last 3 years and appoximate value thereof are given below:—

Year	Coking Coal imported (million tonnes)	Approximate Value (On the basis of FOB Price) (million US$) ;
1989-90	4.66	243
1990-91	5.72	310
1991-92	6.08	324

(d) Some of the steps being taken to augment indigenous availability of coking coal are:—

(i) increasing the raw coking coal supply to the existing washeries by reorganising existing mines and development of new mines;

(ii) increasing washery feed by restoration of low volatile looking coal sources which were delinked in 1984-85 from washeries on account of quality consideration and now found acceptable after testing;

(iii) expediting commissioning of two new washeries, one each at Madhuband and Kedla for increasing the existing washing capacity;

(iv) modification of the existing coking coal washeries by implementation of recommendations of the technical committee to improve the capacity utilisation as well as the quality of washed coking coal;

(v) transporting more quantity of low ash coking coal available in Assam and Meghalaya to the steel plants.

(e) and (f) Coal has been placed under Open General Licence (OGL) and as such there is no need for any licence/permission from the Government of India for its import. However import duty at the prevalent rates has to be paid on such imports.

Statement

Year	Production (million tonnes)			Value (Rs. in Crores)			Despatches (million tonnes)			Net Sale value (Rs. in Crores)		
	CIL	SCCL	Total	CIL	SCCL	Total	CIL	SCCL	Total	CIL	SCCL	Total
1987-88	159.02	16.40	175.42	3581.74	412.13	3993.87	150.51	16.18	166.69	3424.01	401.01	3825.02
1988-89	171.50	18.61	190.11	4540.91	520.75	5061.66	161.85	17.92	179.77	4188.42	494.07	4682.49
1989-90	178.62	17.80	196.42	5021.47	552.93	5574.40	170.18	17.24	187.42	4819.03	528.11	5347.14
1990-91	189.64	17.71	207.35	5343.23	538.61	5881.84	179.69	17.07	196.76	5095.02	505.31	5600.33
1991-92	204.14	20.58	224.72	6541.16	686.03	7227.19	194.28	20.01	214.29	6009.42	653.60	6663.02

CIL : Coal India Limited.

SCCL : Singareni Collieries Company Limited.